LABOR DAY—1950

MONTEREY COUNTY

LABOR NEWS

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DON'T LET IT HAPPEN IN 1950

By JOSEPH D. KEENAN
Director, Labor's League for Political Education

Liberals have always lost ground in the off-year elections. When there is no Presidential contest to capture the concern and the votes of the average citizen, reactionary Congressmen make hay. The 1934 election was the one exception to this rule. Liberals in Congress not only held their ground but increased their majority that year.

What will it be this year? Are we going to get down those who stood by us in Congress? Or are we going to break the 1934 record by sending a clear-cut liberal majority to Congress?

This is a real test for Labor's League for Political Education. 1948 was our first trial in the political battle. Not one friend of labor [illegible] down to defeat. Dozens of reactionaries went back to private life after that great political upset on November 2, 1948.

The professional politicians and the reactionary lobbyists [illegible] our newly formed political league [illegible] their tune as they watched the new [illegible] all over the country that election night.

But, frankly, I don't put too much faith in the 1948 election [illegible] forecast of labor's political strength. First, 1948 was a Presidential election year. Second, the farmers, small business men and veterans were treated badly by the 80th Congress and [illegible] just one group among many [illegible]

The real test comes [illegible] came in on the tide [illegible] really have the unity [illegible] tide is going out.

Louis Bean, the [illegible] cause he predicted Tru[illegible] that contains some ver[illegible] buy a copy. It is called [illegible] this booklet, you will stop flexing your muscles over past success and get down to work with cold perspiration on your brow.

All we lacked was fourteen votes in the House and five in the Senate in order to repeal Taft-Hartley last year. It sounds like we ought to be able to win that many more seats easily, doesn't it? The truth is we will have to work twice as hard as we did in 1948.

If you read between the lines, Louis Bean has a moral for every one of us. One-fourth of the people who vote in Presidential elections do not vote in mid-term elections. There is only one way we can win this year and that is by getting out a record vote. Since 1940 ten million votes have "disappeared." To capture those missing votes is our job.

Sure, it would be nice to sit back and rest on the strength of our victory in 1948. But that is the best way for us to get a bloody nose this Election Day.

For instance, prior to the 1948 election four out of [illegible] West Virginia Representatives were anti-labor and so-called Senators. As a result of that election, West Virginia now has a [illegible] per cent liberal delegation in Congress. Sounds wonderful, doesn't it?

But don't forget what happened in West Virginia in the off-year election of 1946. At that time every Congressman except one was a friend of labor. When they got through counting the ballots, only two friends survived.

Another horrible example is Connecticut. It goes up and down like a roller coaster. A liberal candidate for Congress is always the favorite in Presidential years, but in mid-term election years like this one nobody has any faith in Connecticut voters to save their friends. Even a strong team of candidates like Senators McMahon and Benton and Governor Bowles does not impress the analysts. It is going to take a superhuman vote-getting effort to put over these LLPE-backed candidates. I predict it will be done, but it won't be easy.

Don't think that I am making the contrast of 1946 with 1948 unfairly. Fred Hartley, co-author of the Taft-Hartley Act, quoted in his recent book some embarrassing examples of labor's failure to reward our friends in years past.

Hartley reminds us that it was after the setback in the mid-term election of 1938 that the infamous Smith Committee was set up to investigate the NLRB. We lost so many seats in that election that the House passed seventeen Smith Committee amendments weakening the Wagner Act. Only a liberal majority in the Senate saved us.

Even after the 1940 election the Smith amendments passed the House [illegible] to 1 margin. And what happened to our friends who stuck with [illegible] when they came up for re-election in the mid-term election of 1942? Hartley said:

"[illegible] House members voted against the Smith [illegible] Of these [illegible] WERE DEFEATED in the 1942 elec-

[illegible] have 2[illegible] in the House up for re-election this year. Are [illegible] to let[illegible] further down as we did in 1942? Or are we going [illegible] re-election?

[illegible] of both parties such as Senator Pepper of Florida, Senator [illegible] Oregon, and now Republican Congressman Dayton Phillips of [illegible] have not only had to [illegible] election apathy. They have been [illegible] for their support of organized labor. Unlimited amounts of [illegible] spent to defeat liberals every[illegible] liberals only [illegible] us for help.

[illegible] can do:

[illegible] local union or precinct com-

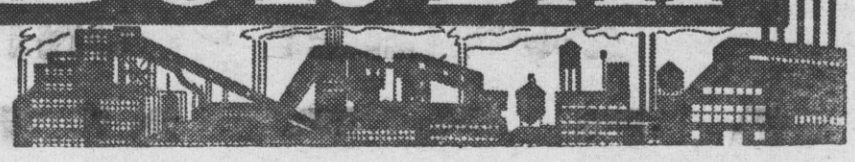


First Labor Day Parade in the U. S.—New York, 1882



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LABOR DAY



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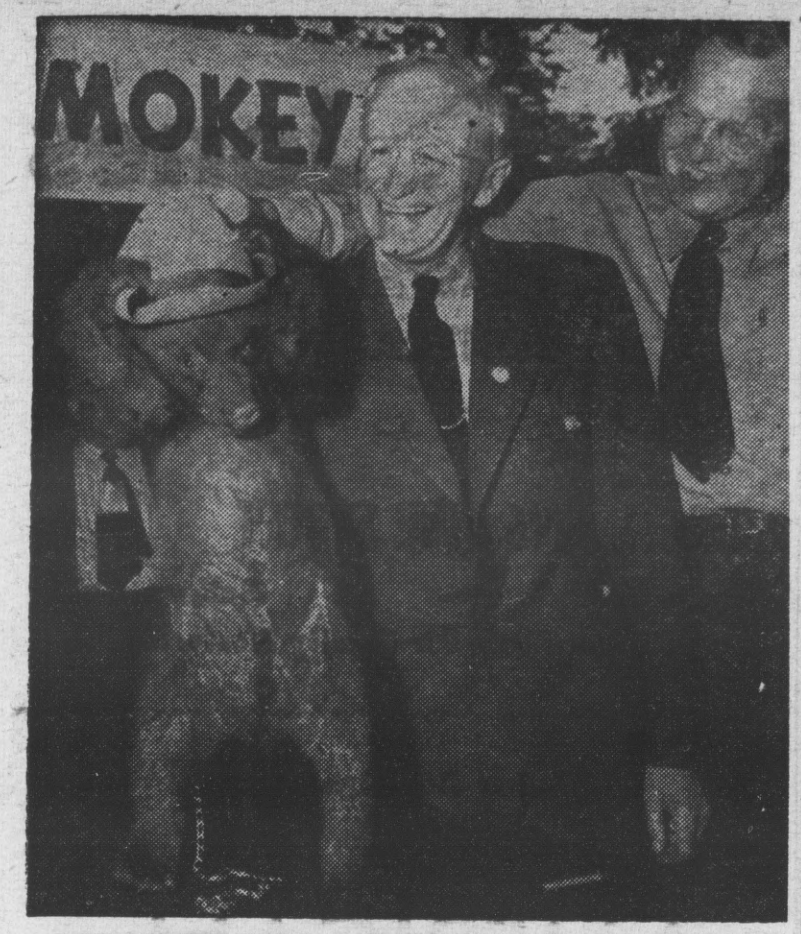
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FIRE VICTIM—Smokey, a 3-month-old black bear cub that survived a New Mexico forest fire, tries on a hat for size after being presented to the Washington zoo. Hurt during the blaze, he's a living reminder of the dangers of forest fires.

Human Resources Are Our Greatest National Asset

The Federal Security Agency, headed by Oscar R. Ewing, bears the responsibility of conserving and strengthening our greatest national asset—our human resources, the American people.

Mr. Ewing in his annual report to the President and to Congress listed major gains but called for strengthening and extension of social security, education, and public health programs. He pointed out that "to wait until catastrophe overtakes us and forces us into hastily devised emergency measures is to disregard the most elementary principles of statesmanship."

Mr. Ewing's recommendations include:

Social Security—Extend benefits to farm and domestic workers; to the self-employed; and to other groups of workers not now covered. Increase the amount of benefits available. Establish a federal-state system of disability insurance. Extend the federal-state assistance programs to all indigent groups. It also calls for the extension of child health and welfare services.

Education—To meet the growing crisis of the nation's schools caused by insufficient personnel and outgrown facilities, the report recommends federal financial aid to education.

Health—The report urges expanding scientific research, investing in the training of highly skilled personnel, providing more hospitals, and bringing medical care within the reach of all.

The report shows the importance of these measures in preserving our American way of life. It points out:

"It is not enough to say we must conserve and develop our human resources in order to add to our national productivity and increase our national wealth. Today, democracy and the American way of life are facing a major challenge. . . .

"In behalf of peace, we must build up our social and economic strength no less than our military strength. . . . In the present world-wide conflict of ideas we must demonstrate conclusively that the individual is healthier, better educated, and economically more secure where democracy is strongest."

"Uncle" Makes Discovery

America has 197 national and international unions with a membership of close to 16 millions, according to figures published in a new "Directory of Labor Unions in the United States."

Of these, 37 have a membership of over 100,000 and six run to over a half million. At the other end of the scale, 16 have less than 1,000 members. Also, about half the unions have less than 100 locals, while 15 have over 1.000.

Also, the directory pointed out that at least one of every four workers in the labor force of 62 millions is a union member. However, that understates the true proportion of union strength, since the working force includes many millions of farmers, professional men, domestics and others who are not "timber" for trade unionism. In many industries, such as the railroads, unions have almost 100 per cent membership.

Portable Oil Changer Provides Quick Operation

A portable electric oil-changing unit, recently introduced, removes old oil through the dip-stick hole. Mounted within a steel cabinet with rubber-tired wheels for portability, a motor-driven, gear-type pump provides the high vacuum necessary to effect a quick change of crankcase oil.

KEEP ON ORGANIZING

Despite the tremendous progress made by organized labor in the last 15 years—progress just emphasized at Labor Day celebrations throughout the nation—plenty of workers are still unorganized. It's up to union members to go after these workers and show them they have no effective voice outside the union fold.

The duty of the moment, as always, is to organize. Tell the non-unionist: Join a union. Get where your voice will be heard—where it will count for something. BE UNION!



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LABOR COMMITTEE HEAD — Rep. Graham A. Barden (D,N.C.) is shown as he assumed his duties as chairman of the House labor committee, succeeding the late John Lesinski. No friend of labor, Barden voted for the Taft-Hartley law.

Don't Cuss the Farmer if Food Costs Too Much

Don't blame the farmer because your food bill is big.

It's not what he makes that runs up the price of groceries; it's the cost of handling the foodstuffs after they have left the farm.

New York City furnishes the best example of marketing costs. Products from 44 states are handled there every day. Agriculture Department specialists have told the House Agriculture Committee that 55 cents out of every dollar a New York housewife pays for fruits and vegetables is the cost of handling those commodities after they reach the city.

Many big city markets where perishables are handled use the same methods they employed 150 years ago. This, plus the fact that railroads and truckers have raised their rates since the war, takes a huge bite out of the consumer's pocketbook.

Last year, for instance, it cost $18.2 million to market the U. S. food supply. That was more than double the cost in 1939.

Modernized methods of processing and distributing food would lead to lower food prices. And lower food prices would mean a bigger demand for both farm products and manufactured goods.

Thus the worker would benefit along with the farmer and the housewife.—(LLPE)

Social Security Important

Why is good social security legislation so important to America?

Here's one reason: The number of men and women over 65 is expected to almost double in the next 40 years.

Yet in that same period total population probably will increase only about 25 per cent.

So you see there will be a lot more old folks to take care of in 1990 than there are today.

Right now the U. S. population is estimated to be 147 million. Of the total 11 million are over 65. In 1990 there probably will be 189 million persons living in America. Of these, 20 million will be over 65.

These figures, based on population estimates of the National Resources Planning Board, were issued May 17 in a Senate Finance Committe report on the bill to expand social security.

It takes a long time to work out a good old age pension program. That's why Congress should make big increases in the social security plan.

The House passed a social security expansion measure last fall. A similar bill is being considered by the Senate.

Industry this year is expected to spend 11 percent less for capital goods than in 1949.

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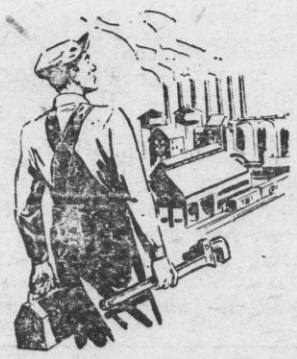
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Year of Progress For Labor In Monterey County

Continued progress during the past twelve months is the boast of AFL unions in Monterey County as Labor Day, 1950, rolls around and with it the annual moment of retrospect.

Excellent employment throughout the county, good organizing campaign, success in contract negotiations, fine political activity, and the tops in public relations — these make up the highlights in brief of the past year in the union picture.

Continuation of the big Pacific Gas & Electric Co. project at Moss Landing, start of the state's medium security prison at Soledad, start of a new forest ranger camp in Slack's Canyon, 150 low-cost housing units—these kept building tradesmen busy and brought an influx of workers looking for jobs, many being placed on local projects.

At Monterey, the biggest run of sardines since early in the last war resulted in a banner pack and in highest Cannery Row employmet in nearly a decade.

Carpenters of Monterey, Salinas, King City, Santa Cruz and Watsonville combined in formation of a Monterey Bay District Council of Carpenters for handling of mutual problems.

Carl Lara, president of the Monterey Council Central Labor Union at Salinas, was "drafted" by the American Federation of Labor to serve as special organizer for the AFL in Puerto Rico.

Carpenters Union 1323 of Monterey erected a new office building a meeting hall and Laborers Union 272 of Salinas announced plans for erecting a new Labor Temple there.

Culinary Alliance and Bartenders Union 483 of Monterey won one of the finest contracts anywhere in the state after an 18-day strike.

Apprentices from throughout the county who had completed their training period were graduated in a mass ceremony in Carmel, the program being the feature attraction of the state convention of the California State Apprentice Council.

Asilomar, in Pacific Grove, was scene of the state-wide labor institute, sponsored jointly by the California State Federation of Labor and the University of California.

At Salinas, the Central Labor Council sponsored a Christmas party where 1500 youngsters were visited by Santa Clause and entertained royally.

Teamsters Union 890 sponsored free Kiddie Klub shows for youngsters in the Salinas area, a part of the city's program for prevention of juvenile delinquency.

Painters of Local 1104 at Salinas donated work to paint the Rescue Mission, highlight of a Clean-up Week campaign.

The county Building Trades Council were expanded after many years into a truly county-wide organization, with headquarters jointly in Salinas and Monterey and with meetings alternating between the two cities.

But all wasn't pleasant for the unions and their leaders. For example:

A bitter fight with a CIO union for jurisdiction over lettuce shed workers was lost in a National Labor Relations Board ballot.

Albert A. Harris, popular Salinas labor leader, president of Teamsters 890 and ex-president of the Salinas labor council, passed away suddenly.

Convicts were found to be doing building trades work at the state prison at Soledad and at the forest ranger camp and a bitter fight was waged with state officials to win the work for free labor.

A fish canning plant was denied permission to expand its holdings because of Pacific Grove zoning laws and it took long-drawn-out campaigning to win the right to expansion, which would allow more employment for union people.

On the political front, however, the county union people displayed their ability. George L. Rice, secretary of Monterey Culinary-Bartenders Union, 483, was nominated for the state assembly and a Ventura rancher, Marion R. Walker, won nomination for U. S. Congress. Both will fight it out with anti-union incumbents in November.

In general, it was a great year. There were many changes in union officers, many improvements in union contracts, many gains in the public favor—a year which can be remembered with pride by all who carry an AFL union card-

The Bridge

"An old man, traveling a lone
highway,
Came at the evening, cold and
gray,
To a chasm deep and wide.
The old man crossed in the twilight dim,
For the sullen stream had no fears
for him;
But he turned when he reached
the other side,
And builded a bridge to span the
tide.

" 'Old Man,' cried a fellow pilgrim
near,
'You are wasting your strength
with building here;
Your journey will end with the
ending day
And you never again will pass this
way;
You have crossed the chasm, deep
and wide,
Why build you a bridge at eventide?'

"And the builder raised his old
gray head—
'Good friend, on the path I have
come,' he said,
'There followeth after me today
A youth whose feet will pass this
way.
This stream which has been as
naught to me,
To that fair-haired boy may a pitfall be;
He, too, must cross in the twilight
dim—
Good friend, I am building this
bridge for him'."

Force Wage Cut On Potato Pickers

Bakersfield, Calif.—California potato pickers have been forced to take wage cuts averaging $12 a week, the Natl. Farm Labor Union (AFL) charged here.

After a survey of potato fields in the Shafter-Wasco area, where thousands of laborers are employed, the union discovered that their wages had been cut from 6c to 5c a stub. For the average picker who gets 200 stubs a day, the slash means a loss of $2 a day or $12 a week.

"This loss will have an immediate effect on the purchasing power in the community," NFLU Natl. Rep. William Becker warned. "The loss will amount to approximately $84,000 per week."

He pointed out that the labor contractors did not receive a cut in their commission. They still receive 2c a sack for every sack the potato workers pick.

Wife: "I was a fool when I married you."

Husband: "I guess you were, but I was so infatuated at the time I didn't notice."

The Honest Expert

The confused person often feels confirmed in his indecision by the claim: "Even the experts don't agree. How can I make a decision?" and "How do we know we are right?"

First, the views expressed by the experts are often biased and much less objective than we think. for instance, the objectivity of an article on TVA written by an "expert" would disappear if it were known that it was published by a newspaper run by an executive of a local power company. Sometimes the expert's views are innfluenced by the special group which employs him. NAM's experts are certainly not so expert about people's needs.

We also have experts on our side, although the press is reluctant to report this situation. Their views are less likely to be influenced by special groups, because as spokesmen of progress, they have nothing personal to gain. In fact, they frequently lose in terms of status and employment opportunities. It often takes considerable courage for them to voice their opinions.

Next, it is important to stress the basic simplicity of such issues as housing, peace, and freedom. Reactionaries may deliberately throw a smokescreen about issues in an attempt to confuse the voter. But a little thought will frequently show the issues themselves to be astonishingly clear. An expert is not required to decide whether they are good or bad; he is needed only to determine the best method for obtaining them. Answering the question, "Who will gain and who will lose?" is often a useful method of arriving at a decision.

GOLDEN GLEAMS

Only in states in which the power of the people is supreme has liberty any abode. — Cicero.

* * *

Lean liberty is better than fat slavery. —John Ray.

* * *

The God who gave us life gave us liberty at the same time.
—Jefferson.

* * *

Liberty is not a fruit that grows in all climates, and so it is not within the reach of all people.
—J. J. Rousseau.

* * *

The condition upon which God hath given liberty to a man is eternal vigilance. —J. P. Curran.

It requires some experience of liberty to know how to use it.
—H. H. Brackenridge.

The Dawning

We are living at the dawning
Of a frowning, awful age;
Some are cursing, some are fawning,
Some are half insane with rage.
Some are lazy in luxury,
Some are naked and half fed.
Some suppressing blind fury,
Some with hearts and hope half dead.

This cannot go on forever;
Millions will not groan in vain.
Do not think the worm will never
Turn and fight when blind with pain.
There must come a reformation:
Men must do their neighbor good.
Only two roads for this nation—
To prosperity, or blood.
—ANONYMOUS.

Some husbands have learned that the best way to produce real harmony in the home is to play second fiddle.

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Orphans Were Preferred

When the operators of the Pony Express sought riders for the Overland Trail mail run in the 1860's, here is the type of Want Ad they inserted in the newspapers in and around St. Joseph, Missouri:

"Wanted: Young, skinny, wiry fellows, not over 18, must be expert riders, willing to risk death daily. Orphans preferred."

Some of our greatest heroes of the purple sage responded to the advertisement and became crack Pony Expressmen. Among them was a skinny, wiry, 13-year-old waif named Bill Cody, immortalized later as Buffalo Bill.

Of course in the 1860's there were no restrictions on the hiring of minors; the only safety precaution was the speed a rider could click off the "safe" on his six shooter and start spitting lead at a hostile Indian or highwayman. The 40-hour week? What a joke!

Yet, today there are certain employers, we regret to say, who long for the old open shop days of yore. They would exploit miners to the utmost; they would scrap every piece of industrial legislation to the winds; they would get back to the 80-hour sweatshop week. That is, if they had a free rein.

Luckily such isn't in prospect.

Treatment of Burns

Flame, steam, or just an extremely hot surface injures the skin and produces what we commonly call a burn or scald.

Hot solids or liquids are the most common causes of burns.

Sliding down a rope, chemicals, electricity and such agents as ultra-violet lamps, X-rays and sunshine are also responsible for "burns" of the skin.

Depth of the injury to the skin and the underlying tissues is the basis for the usual classifications of burns.

In first degree burns, merely some reddening of the skin, similar to that of mild sunburn, occurs.

Second degree burns cause actual blistering; the skin over the blister is completely killed.

Third degree burns involve not only the skin itself, but also the tissues, lying beneath it, which are killed and charred.

For minor burns several excellent ointments are available. For second and third degree burns, the advice of a physician should be sought IMMEDIATELY.

Until he arrives, it is not wise to do too much. Loose clothing should be cut away from the burned area, but if it is sticking, it should be let alone.

If there is likely to be a delay in arrival of the doctor, the burn should be kept covered with clean cloth and the patient made comfortable.

Large burned surfaces should not have greases, oils or ointments applied.

These are difficult to remove, may produce pain, and often interfere with what the physician wishes to do later.

Praise

The praises of the common man have often been sung, long and loud. But we would like to take time out to sing the praises of a very common type of individual, who all too often is overlooked.

We are thinking of the shop committeeman, who day in and day out carries out the work of the union, and usually gets little thanks for his time and trouble.

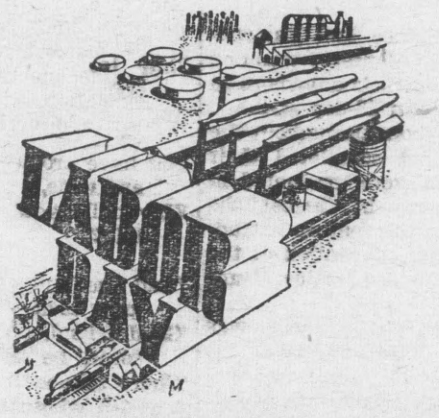
When things are going along smoothly in the shop, the committeeman has little to do. But let something go wrong, he is the first person everyone thinks about.

You tell your troubles to him. You let him work out your grievance, often alone. And if he doesn't get your problem settled to your satisfaction,all too often he gets the blame.

We hope that isn't the way things go in your shop. We hope you make it a point to tell your committeeman that you appreciate the work he is doing. He'll appreciate it and it will do both of you —as well as your union—a lot of good.

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Bosses, Politicians Fought Viciously for 10-Hour Day

By ROY SMITH

(In past installments, we reviewed the early campaigns of organized labor in California, from the time of the Gold Rush until early 1867. This period was marked by an educational and legislative campaign for our eight-hour day. This phase of the campaign, which reached its heights in the winter of 1866-67, ended when the State Senate rejected an eight-hour day Assembly Bill by the narrow margin of 19-18. After this defeat the different trades, including the Carpenters which took a very active part in the fight for an eight-hour day, called meetings and passed resolutions that after a certain date set by the different crafts, they would work eight hours only. This move met with great success and after 5 o'clock every job was policed to make sure that no one worked over that time. On June 3, 1867 (known as Inauguration Day), a great celebration was held by the workers of San Francisco, and over 2,000 men marched in a parade that had never been equalled in San Francisco. Organizations known as leagues were set up to promote the welfare of the workingman. League objectives were a mechanic's lien law; opposition to Chinese immigration; and the founding of cooperative stores and factories. In the last issue, we presented the preamble of a majority report of a meeting held in San Francisco in March, 1867.)

* * *

The resolution called for the enactment of a law for an eight-hour day, the passage of a more satisfactory mechanic's lien law, the prohibition of Chinese immigration, and the abolition of convict labor.

A minority report was introduced by A. M. Kenaday which called for a State Convention and the inclusion of the Settlers and Miners Association in the organization. He asked for the appointment of a State Central Directory, embracing representatives from the Chamber of Commerce, the Mechanics Institute, the Miners Association, and the State Settlers League. It was recommended that each trade association send a delegate to the convention of the National Labor Union at Chicago. His report ended by demanding independence entirely of this convention from the Industrial League or any other secret organization. After a long bitter debate, the majority report was adopted.

At the adjourned meeting of the convention held April 9, the Bricklayers Protective Association withdrew its delegates. Some time before the convention Kenaday was appointed state organizer for the National Labor Union for California and was also one of its vice-presidents. Not able to overcome the opposition, he decided to call a rival convention of labor and reform associations in the state, for the purpose of carrying out the ideals of the National Labor Union. This convention was held on April 30, 1867. At the next meeting of the Workingmen's convention he was expelled and labeled "an enemy of labor." On June 22, Kenaday withdrew his call for a National Labor Union convention and announced that "the necessity no longer exists for an independent State Convention of Workingmen" because their desired ends had been secured by other means.

ENTER POLITICS

Meetings of the Workingmen's Convention were held in the next few months, and as time went on they grew more and more violent. The question of Chinese immigration became increasingly prominent in all discussions, and caused the withdrawal of some of the unions. Also, the political machinations of the leaders were increasingly evident. The latter were eager to control the organization so as to use it to their advantage in the approaching elections.

The convention finally agreed that a Workingmen's ticket should be placed in the field in order to ensure the election of only those delegates to the county, congressional and state conventions, who were pledged to nominate candidates favorable to the demands of the workers. A list of delegates was selected by a committee, but when it was brought before the convention a bitter debate ensued. The morning Call stated that the convention had been sold out to the "Gorham Ring" (Union Republicans) and described the scene on the convention floor as follows: "A member rises and says: 'This is too nice a thing. I thought this was a Workingmen's convention. I find that there are brokers, politicians, and custom house officials being placed in nomination and endorsed.'"

Protests were made that the nominees were not workingmen, and that the list of delegates was being "crammed down the throats" of the laboring class. In the primary election which followed, the Workingmen's ticket was credited were the Gorham Union Republican nominees.

On June 27, the Workingmen's convention was called together to discuss an accusation that Assemblyman Wilcox, its candidate for the congressional nomination, had "sold out." After a lot of wrangling, the convention adjourned without having disposed of the matter. On July 11 the convention again assembled. The meeting this time was controlled by Democrats. Amidst a lot of confusion they expelled the president, J. J. Ayers, and voted to support the Democratic state ticket.

GAINS MADE

The Workingmen's convention, the first of the working class of California, had been called in the hope that something might be accomplished for the workers by means of non-partisan politics. Its failure was characteristic of many similar attempts made subsequently to unite politics and trade unionism in California.

It was the means, however, of bringing the demands of the workers prominently before the people of the state, and in the subsequent Republican and Democratic conventions platforms were adopted pledging the enactment of the desired legislation. It served its purpose also in directing attention to the advisability of a closer unity among the labor organizations of the state, especially among those of San Francisco. Before many months passed this ideal was achieved.

To protect the interests of labor and to make sure that candidates favorable to labor's demands were chosen at the polls, the workingmen in August 1867 organized the Mechanics Eight-Hour League.

This League questioned candidates on their position on the eight-hour day, the mechanic's lien law, and other matters that the workers were interested in. The worker was instructed to vote for ONLY those candidates who answered satisfactorily. Most of the legislators elected were thus pledged to vote for measures in which the workers were vitally interested. On September 6, 1867, the Dispatch wrote an editorial characterizing the outcome as a "victory for the workingmen such as is unprecedented in political history of this or any other state."

A determined effort was made by the waterfront employers to abolish the eight-hour day in the summer and fall months of 1867 among the ship carpenters, ship joiners, shipwrights and caulkers. The Pacific Mail Steamship Company did likewise. The Alta California, which steadfastly opposed the eight-hour day movement, on July 22 stated:

"A large number of mechanics are employed in the city who labor ten hours and they are represented to be excellent workmen. . . . It would appear that the difficulty is not so great as anticipated in finding hands who are willing to adhere to the old system of ten hours."

The above seemed to represent the opinion of the employers, for on July 8 they formed a "Ten Hour Association." This association adopted resolutions pledging its members as follows:

"To use all just and honorable means to prevent the eight-hour labor system being adopted in this city as a day's work, knowing as we do that it is incompatible with the best interest and growth of the city. . . . We furthermore agree to employ no mechanics who work for less than ten hours as a day's work, or pro rata for the hour's work, and it is mutually agreed and understood that we will encourage all journeymen mechanics, who are willing to work at the above rates, and most decidedly discourage all those who are opposed to this system. By so doing we believe we are working to the best interest of the mechanics themselves as well as for the best interest of the city and state at large"

In a Nutshell

Under a democratic form of government you have a right to choose the job you want, and to leave it when you wish. You have the right to spend or save, as you will. You have the right to speak your mind or hold your peace as you choose. You have the right to work as much as you see fit, and to be paid in proportion to your work.

In other words, you are free.

And what are the other fruits of capitalism under a democracy?

Well, the next time some fast talker tries to tell you how fine it is to live under a "planned" economy, and how tough it is to survive under the free American way, tell him this: With only 6% of the world's people, we have . . . 46% of the world's electric power . . . 48% of the world's radios . . . 54% of the world's telephones . . . 59% of the world's steel capacity . . . 60% of the world's life insurance . . . 85% of the world's automobiles . . . and 60,000,000 people employed, not as slaves, but as volunteers.

We don't think our way of life is perfect. We admit there's room for improvement—but so far, the American way is the best way yet developed to give you the incentive to apply yourself to your job—to give you control over the rewards of your work—to enable you to enjoy the pleasures of houses, automobiles, refrigerators and vacations—to let you live and move in dignity and freedom.

Let's strive to make our way of life better—but, meanwhile, let's be sure to keep it as good as it already is.

AUTO HINTS

Cleaning Advised—Periodic cleaning of the automobile gasoline fuel line and filter, the air cleaner to the carburetor, and the crankcase oil breather system is recommended.

* * *

First for Safety.—"After you" is recognized as a social courtesy, but it's poor headlight practice on the highway. Be the first to dim your headlights for an oncoming car, for your own safety's sake.

* * *

Brake Noises.—A scratching or grinding noise as brakes are applied while your car is in motion usually indicates metal to metal contact inside the brake drum. This may be caused by worn-out brake linings, and to avoid scored drums, the wheels should be removed for inspection and replacement of brake linings, as necessary.

* * *

Slippery When Wet.—Good tires and good brakes on your car, and good judgment as to your speed, are the best safeguards against skidding on wet pavement.

* * *

Battery Solution.—If the automobile battery solution is too high, heat created through normal action may force some of it out through the air vents, thereby corroding the terminals. Electrolyte level in a battery should be maintained at three-eighths to one-half inch above the plates at all times.

* * *

Back-Track.—If you drive up to a turn without time to signal your intentions to other drivers, keep going until you can signal and turn safely. It's better to turn back than to turn over.

* * *

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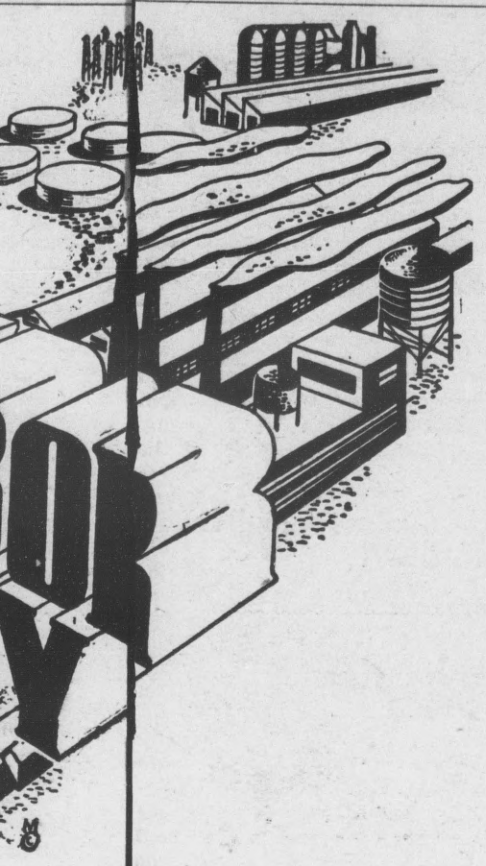
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Need Livelier Meetings

Many people say quite sincerely that they "don't have the time." How do we overcome this stubborn argument?

If you can find out when the apathetic member has nothing to do, ask him to contribute his services then. Try not to encroach on any areas of time reserved for what is, to him, essential entertainment. But frequently people have "time on their hands" and are quite eager to do something constructive. "Free" hours can be used for progressive work.

It is dangerous "not to have time." The Germans didn't have time for politics, either. Their ruined cities, their untold dead, their wrecked lives are ample testimony of the price of inactivity.

Psychological research has shown that in many cases fatigue is a result of monotony and repetitive work, and that tiredness frequently vanishes or diminishes when routine is varied. The accountant who works with figures all day may find genuine satisfaction and enjoyment in talking to people during an hour or so of canvassing in the evneing; the salesgirl who has been on her feet all day may find some kind of writing or organizational detail stimulating.

Point out that the activities of your organization are different enough to offer many people a chance to utilize talents which find no expression elsewhere.

In addition to the work, there is the enjoyment of social functions and the stimulation and satisfaction of good meetings. But it is not enough simply to say this—the proof is in the meetings.

"Good" meetings fight apathy inside your organization. Some people are deeply devoted to your cause, some only mildly so. In either case a stimulating and exciting meeting will increase their enthusiasm. Nothing can be duller than a dreary, unplanned, directionless meeting. Try new ideas. Quizzes are popular and interesting; use them to get across information, clarify foggy issues, and revitalize old ideas. Or, if possible, use a popular film to illustrate how movies often foster reactionary values, perpetuate myths, and obscure real issues. The more new and different ways you can use to get people interested and involved, the more stimulated and excited will your members be when they leave a meeting. Get everyone to participate. Rigid parliamentary methods are dull; a quiz, a movie discussion, a current event discussion, will enliven meetings and dissipate apathy.



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op Puzzler AFL Member

New York.—AFL member Cipri-o Ferraris keeps time at New rk's Hotel St. Regis for a living. also keeps the nation's top thematical wizards stumped try-g to figure out the intricate zzles he contrives. "I puzzle ev-ybody," says Ferraris modestly. 't's my hobby."

Members of Local 6, Hotel and estaurant Employes Intl. Union, scovered that the genial little nekeeper — who has been in the dustry for 55 years and is an ac-e union member—was a nation-celebrity when they read about n in their union paper, Hotel & ub Voice. Before that, his ex-oits had attracted the attention such publications as the New rker, the New York Times and e Cincinnati Enquirer.

The New Yorker quoted Fer-ris' fellow-members in the Rid-ers Club as agreeing that "his nius for constructing geometri-l arrangements has never been ualed and probably never will ." An article in the Baltimore n described Ferraris as a "nat-al arithmetical wizard whose zzles are said to be the despair noted contemporaries." The pa-r continued: "It would be inter-ting to know what kind of edu-tion Fubine (his puzzler's pro-ssional name) has had."

Actually, the puzzle exp rt's edu-tion consisted of thre years of hooling in his native Fubine in rthern Italy and a brief session night school in New York later. ost of his training he received om his father, who was a black-ith and the wisest man in town. oming to New York at the age of , Ferraris helped his father in s blacksmith shop and spent a tle time in school, where he nazed his arithmetic teacher by lving the most complicated prob-ms without a pencil.

His pride and joy is a Benjamin anklin puzzle, which hangs in e Franklin Institute at Philadel-ia. "It is a miracle," he frankly mits. It consists of "millions" of mbinations of 1706, the birth te of Franklin, who was also a bbler in magic squares.

A story in the Cincinnati En-irer described how Ferraris stole e show at a Natl. Puzzlers Lea-e convention. "Most of the puz-ers wandered dazed through the rridors," the story said, "after rraris confronted them with his tahedroid—a 5-tier affair with 5 blocks all numbered so that no atter what way they are totaled, figures up to 1565."

A New York Times story about later convention said: "Today s just a headache for 200 mem-rs of the Natl. Puzzlers League. e league officers had planned refully that the first two days re to be devoted to 'having a od time.' Not a single crypto-am, cipher, rebus, cryptarithm palindrome was to be laid be-e the members.

'But the officers had failed to ke 'Fubine' into account. This teran puzzler came with four and-new magic stars, which he d worked out himself, and with challenge to anyone to solve em. He even flaunted a $50 bill, ying it would go to the person o first solved his mathematical ts. 'It's perfectly safe,' he told porters. 'I constructed the puz-s, but I'm sure nobody can solve em.'"

Nobody did.

re and Wheel Lifter ses Tire-Changing

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For Women Only

By VIOLA LANE

"What a beautiful woman!" Did you ever say that admiringly and then change your mind when the "beauty" stands up, revealing a slouching posture or ungainly walk? It happens all the time.

The way you stand and walk is a most important part of your beauty. It is the key to your appearance. Yet, most women are far from expert at walking although they do so much of it.

Rule No. 1 is to stand up straight. Keep your shoulders set well back and head up. When you stand, the toes should be pointed straight ahead, not in or out. This is just as true in walking. If you point your toes out when you walk, you're throwing a strain on the inner side of the foot. Besides, it just isn't graceful.

Correct posture places your weight just where it belongs: on the ball of the foot. Putting your weight on the heels makes you sway from side to side and look ungainly. The ball of the foot should go down first, then the heel. This will put a spring in your step without making your head bob up and down.

The toe-and-heel walk may seem tricky at first. Try practicing it barefoot in private and discover how really easy and natural it is. Once you master it, it's the start of stronger feet and a smooth, gliding gait.

* * *

CARING FOR THE CHILD

Teach your child health habits early!

Habit is the tendency to do again what has been done before. It is a way of behaving, thinking, or feeling that, once established as a routine, is easily followed. Habits are learned, not inherited. Once learned, they can be great time-savers.

A child learns to pull on a coat, to button and unbutton clothing, to use a fork and spoon, by trying and trying again. An adult who does hundreds of complicated acts daily without thinking of them is relying on habits, learned in childhood. Think of the time saved each day because adults can wash, eat, sew, write, read and handle tools almost automatically.

Many people think of habits only as ways of acting and forget the even more important habits of thinking and feeling. Children not only learn the habit of getting into their clothes, but also learn to like certain colors and to dislike a dirty dress or a torn stocking. So they develop habits of "good taste" or "neatness." Even attitudes toward life are partly a matter of habit. Children learn to be cheerful and happy or sulky and cross according to the habits they form.

Patiently teaching a child to do habitually and without conscious effort the things that make for good health is one of the first duties of parents. The health habits have to do with the daily activities of the child—eating, sleeping, playing, eliminating and keeping the body clean and suitably clothed. Most of these habits should be learned in the first three or four years of life. Once learned, they may last a lifetime.

Remember that a child wants to do again the things that give him pleasure and satisfaction. He won't want to repeat the things which have unpleasant associations. Therefore, to help a child form good habits, make sure that he gets satisfaction from the things you want him to do.

How It Began

The estates of Westminister Abbey (originally the Church of St. Peter) were taken to pay the cost of repairs to St. Paul's; hence the expression, rob Peter to pay Paul.

MALE EXPLANATION

Little Joan: "Daddy, why is it that the Women's Club always bring their knitting when they come to the house?"

Daddy: "I suppose it gives them something to think about while they are talking."

LABOR ODDITY

The official delegates from the British Trade Union Congress to the 1915 convention of the American Federation of Labor, in San Francisco, were: C. G. Ammon and Ernest Bevin. You will recognize the name Ernest Bevin as one of England's leading statesmen today. It is customary to present some little token to fraternal delegates, so the regular American delegates took up their usual collection and presented Ernest Bevin with a watch. Now, 33 years later, Ernest Bevin, the great British statesmen, still carries the watch presented to him by delegates to the 1915 convention of the American Federation of Labor!

The Christian City

Jesus from home looked down
Into the midst of a Christian town.
Some were rich, and some were fair;
Some were worn with pain and care.
Some were naked, and some were wan;
Some were hungry since life began;
Some were idle and longed to toil,
But dared not touch the common soil.

Murder lurked in alley dim;
Lust looked up and laughed at him.
Monopoly, all in splendor, shone
Over pavements of blood and bone.
Honor's robe the garb of crime;
Pelf the theme of prose and rhyme;
Greed the prince and love the slave;
Scorn the need of all the brave.
Self a god on gilded throne,
Truth a tramp at the door alone;
Mammon sitting in Power's chair,
Saying: "I rule here, you rule there."

Oh! the pity of that fond face,
Stained with tears for the human race.
"Father! Father! I died for these;
I drank the cup to its very lees,
But even now they do not see
The truth that waits to make them free;
Now, as then, my cry rings true:
'Forgive them! They know not what they do'!"

—A. F. BROOMHALL.

On Fair Profits

"What is a fair profit?" asks Professor Willford I. King, proquestion by commenting on an pagandist for the "Committee for Constitutional Government," a lavishly financed Lobby for the Rich.

The professor answers his own article recently published in the "Harvard Business Review."

The article told how a group of promoters, about a year ago, put up only $150,000 of their own money and made $9,825,000 profit, or 6,550 per cent, in a deal which changed the government-owned "Big Inch" and "Little Inch" oil pipelines into privately-owned natural gas lines.

"Prudent financiers may well question," the article said, "whether public confidence can be retained if a few insiders continue to take such huge profits, with little or no risk."

The good professor disagrees. "Such an attack on this promotion," he declares, "indicates either a sad lack of sound education on the subject of profits, or an infiltration of collectivist ideology.

"In orthodox economic theory, any profit, honestly and legally obtained, is legitimate."

That word "honestly," of course, rather "begs the question," but we leave our readers to judge between the author of the article and Professor King. What is a legitimate profit when you take no risk?

A Creed

There is a destiny that makes us brothers;
None goes his way alone:
All that we send into the lives of others
Comes back into our own.
I care not what his temples or his creeds,
One thing holds firm and fast—
That into his fateful heap of days and deeds
The soul of man is cast.

—Edwin Markham.

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FREEDOM OF WORSHIP

That part of man which is called the spirit and which belongs only to himself and to his God, is of the very first concern in designing a free world. It was not their stomachs but their immortal souls which brought the first settlers to America's shores, and they prayed before they ate. Freedom of conscience, the right to worship God, is part of our soil and of the sky above this continent.

Freedom of worship implies that the individual has a source of moral values which transcends the immediate necessities of the community, however, important these may be. It is one thing to pay taxes to the state—this men will do; it is another to submit their consciences to the state—this they politely decline. The wise community respects this mysterious quality in the individual, and makes its plans accordingly.

The democratic guarantee of freedom of worship is not in the nature of a grant—it is in the nature of an admission. It is the state admitting that the spirit soars in illimitable regions beyond the collectors of customs. It was Tom Paine, one of the great voices of freedom in early America, who pointed out that a government could no more grant to man the liberty to worship God than it could grant to God the liberty of receiving such worship.

Confusion Ain't Amusin'

A person is often inactive because he is confused; he wants to do the right thing but he quite frankly doesn't know how. He faces the many confused and complex problems of the day and wails, "I can't make up my mind," "I don't know the answers," "I can't decide." So anxious is he to be absolutely correct in every detail of his activity that he prefers to withdraw rather than run the risk of doing something wrong.

A useful point to remember is that the indecisive person himself frequently does not know why he is confused. He will react with surprise when he learns that actually the entire situation is perfectly clear to him. By posing a few pointed questions like "Do you agree with this,' or "Do you disagree with that," you will often obtain a series of clear-cut yes and no answers which prove to the person that he is really quite decided on a number of topics which he believed confused him. Using a method like this one, in which an individual can arrive at a position through his own logic, is effective.

He is enough of a thinking person to know that he wants to obtain price control and retain rent control, social security and unemployment insurance. Actually, the way is simple and clear: action through a progressive organization. There is nothing complex or confusing about that.

Confusion and indecision may be justifiied as a temporary state but they are not a way of life. Present conditions may give him cause to be confused, but confusion shouldn't and needn't be made a habit. No one is positive about all the details, but this lack of precision does not excuse the absence of a general position. Enough of the facts are "in" for us to embark on a minimum program at least.

A man arrested for stealing a car gave the novel excuse that he found it standing in front of a cemetery and thought the owner was dead.

Some people speak from experience — others, from experience, don't speak.

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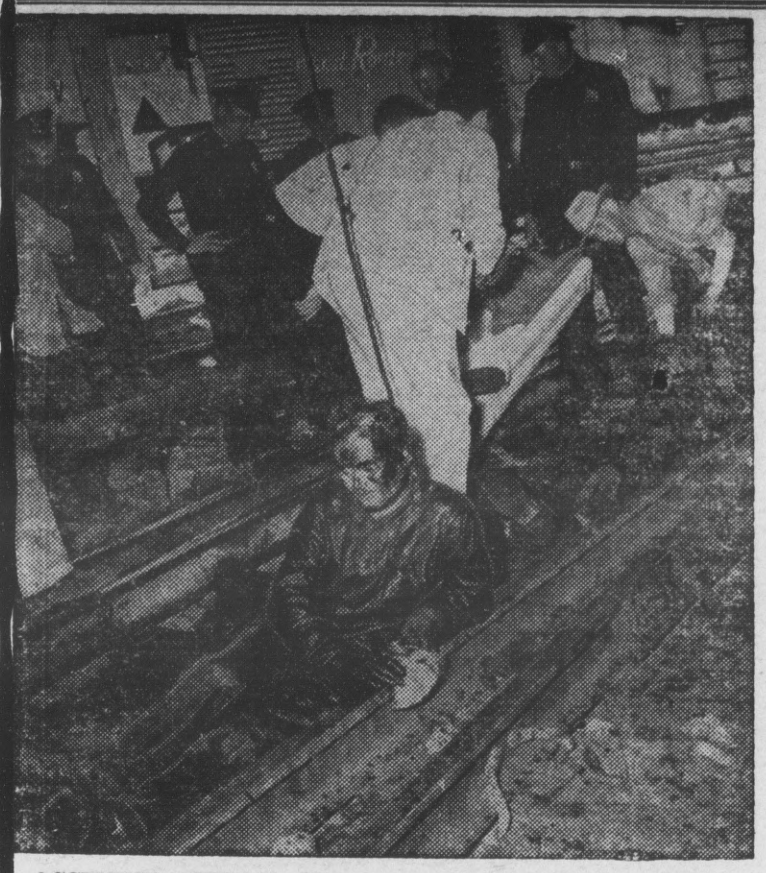
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ACCIDENT VICTIMS—These two painters were working on a ridge at the New York Central railroad yard when the scaffold slipped nd they fell 25 feet to the track below. Covered with black paint, he victims, Harry Paravarlos and Frank Pavich, await a police amulance.

Right and Wrong?

Comparing housing programs in Great Britain and the United tates, the newspaper, **Labor** cites hat it contends is the "right and rong way to handle housing." ritain, says the newspaper, is sight of her goal of 750,000 new omes.

On the basis of population, we hould have completed about three imes that number—and we have. ut, adds **Labor,** here is the catch: "In Britain, the Labor governent insists that at least three out f four of the new homes must go those who can't afford to buy. other words, they must be ented to ordinary folks at rentals ey can afford to pay.

"In this country, we have conentrated on the construction of omes to be sold on 'easy terms' t fantastic prices. That's why e are faced by an appalling ousing problem."

You can be sure that if you augh at your troubles you'll never un out of something to laugh at.

* * *

"Etc." is a sign used to make thers believe you know more an you really do.

* * *

Wonder what civilization did hen there was no gasoline, cigrette or liquor taxes to keep it oing.

* * *

Few things are neeedful to make he wise man happy, but nothing tisfies the fool.—Rochefoucald.

* * *

A spinster is a lady desperate nough to play post office with a econd class male.



SOME BODY—That's Marie McDonald, otherwise known as The Body, busily at work on her latest Hollywood picture. She seems to deserve her nickname, doesn't she?

Facts About China

China is second only to Russia in size. Its 3,858,900 square miles make China about one-third larger than the United States. The area of the U. S. is 2,977,128 square miles.

* * *

China has the world's largest population, 461,000,000. This is more than three times the population of the U. S. One out of every five people in the world is Chinese.

* * *

Shanghai, with 4,274,486 people, is China's largest city. Next come Tientsin and Peiping, each about the size of Detroit. Peiping, and also Chungking, are former capitals.

* * *

Coal, iron and tin are among China's most abundant minerals. In peacetime China is the world's leading exporter of tungsten, which is valuable in the making of steel.

* * *

Four out of five Chinese are farmers. Yet the exhausted farmland cannot begin to feed China's huge population. Thousands starve each year. The main food crop is rice.

* * *

China has few railroads, and those are mostly damaged by war. Highways also are poor. Most traveling is done on foot, or by boats on China's two great rivers, the Yangtze and the Yellow.

* * *

Of all the world's great nations, China is the weakest in industries. Factories built in the eastern half of the country before 1938 were moved to the Chungking area. Industry is still feeble and unsettled.

Union Scholarships, A Good Idea

The Chicago Flat Janitors Union, AFL, has made a contribution to education and good citizenship by deciding to award eight annual opportunity scholarships at Northwestern University for sons and daughters of its 8,000 members.

An announcement by the university said the union's action mark the first time any American labor union has offered general, unrestricted scholarships to children of its membership. President Franklyn B. Snyder said he would like to see a similar program "followed by other forward-looking labor organizations throughout the country."

The scholarships will be used for a year at a time, but may be renewed if the student maintains a satisfactory record.

The white potato is one of the leading food crops of the world. Some 8,000,000,000 bushels are raised annually.

Truth About Safety

Sophocles was an honest and a truthful man. His name was revered as though he were a Saint. He founded the school of Sophists who spoke only the truth. In course of time the Sophists became corrupt, and finally when one wishes now to call a man a liar, one uses the soft word Sophist to indicate he is lying. Thus, words become corrupted because they are used by hypocrites.

SAFETY OVERWORKED

It may be that way with the word "safety." It may be that it has been overworked, that it lost all sanctity which was part of it; and it may be that when the word safety is mentioned to men and women engaged in extra-hazardous work, they wince with revulsion, and begin to hate and despise it as something ugly, hypocritical and evil. Perhaps safety has become a Sophism—a lie.

What is the cure? The cure is to be found in philosophy. It is to be found in the fact that the eternal verities do not change. It is to be found in the fact that man is born with the instinct of safety in him. It is a part of his nature. It is wrong to take that instinct from him, and in its place hand him a book of safety rules worked out by men without chests. You cannot rob man of his first law of nature, and expect anything but chaos.

INSTINCT OF SAFETY

Man may be born with the instinct of safety in him, but in a complex civilization with its manifold machines, that instinct of safety must grow and develop. It may be destroyed, or it may be curbed, and evil will result. If it is developed to meet a modern age the instinct of safety will be modernized. Does this sound involved, intricate or even impossible?

One might descant upon the philosophical and the psychological approach to solving the problem of safety but until one recognizes that man has been de-safetized by modern civilization to such an alarming extent that accidents multiply and human beings are crushed and killed in accidents which could have been avoided, no progress in safety will be permanent.

During the late war more than fifteen million young men were taught to be brave, to be careless of personal safety, to die willingly for their way of life. To a great extent they were de-safetized.

FIRST LAW OF NATURE

The war is over but we cannot expect them to forget those lessons. Just as they were educated to forget personal safety, they must be re-educated to the fact that it is the first law of nature.

Let us be reasonable. When a water to swim, he is taking a risk; when a man goes up in an airplane, he takes a risk. When a man walks along the street or highway, he takes a risk. When he drives an auto, he takes a risk.

Actually, no one is ever completely safe. All one can do is to take reasonable precautions. Men who have grown too careless are unnatural. They are bereft of proper regard for the first law of nature. They are de-safetized.

The thing to do is to educate the worker, to bring back into his life the instinct of safety. Inasmuch as only a Labor paper knows Labor's needs, a Labor paper must be the agency for publicity to propagandize workers who have been de-safetized to reclaim the instinct of safety—the first law of nature.

VISIONS

What was the most exciting thing you ever saw? What was the funniest thing? The most heart-warming?

The most mystifying? The bravest? The most unusual?

The most picturesque? The sweetest? The most remembered?

Think about them. Are such things worth using goggles and constant caution to protect your eyesight?

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The Virtue Of Honesty

Honesty is, perhaps, the most widely respected of all virtues. It takes many forms. The man who enjoys a reputation for absolute honesty is always looked up to by his co-workers, his employer, or, if he is the employer, by his employes.

Being honest is not a difficult thing to do when there is no cause to be otherwise. The difficult part is in being honest when there seems (always mistakenly) to be a good reason for being otherwise.

"NEGATIVE HONESTY" UNPRAISED

Just ordinary run-of-the-mill honesty is no great virtue and should not be considered any great achievement. Nobody receives or should expect medals for honesty simply because he has not robbed any banks or has not snatched the purses of any aged widows. The honest man is more than simply not a thief.

The honest man is the man who is honest with everyone at all times. He pays his debts fully and on time. He gives his employer a full day's work in return for a full day's pay. He always, in all places and at all times, speaks the truth and his word is his bond.

An honest man buys, with his honesty, the peace which a dishonest and deceitful person can never know. He is serene in the knowledge that his honesty is a wall through which no disquiet may creep. Honesty brings with it its own reward; a mind which is at peace; a conscience which is quiet.

Honesty is a trait which must be applied to all our dealings with everyone each day and not the least of those to whom it must apply is—ourselves. The man who is not honest with himself can never be completely honest with others, for he is not truly himself. He is a second person, constantly trying to misrepresent himself; living a sham.

The honest man walks proudly, regardless of his position in life. His head is raised to meet the world which gives him no lasting challenge. He is liked by all who are associated with him. Without the primary virtue of honesty, any other good points he might possess, such as wit, artistry, manual ability, a head for business, or any other good attribute would be completely dashed to pieces on the lurking rocks of hidden distrust.

Honesty is the best policy in day-to-day living; with one's family, on the job and in the union to which you belong. Be honest with your fellow-members when it comes to carrying your share of the union load. In the first place, you should pay your dues fully and promptly. Unless you do so, you will have to be dropped from membership; an injustice to yourself and to the rest. Then, not less important, you should attend your local's meetings and take part in the discussions which arise. Through the participation of all members, honest union democracy will prevail. Those dishonest creatures who would pervert unionism to serve the interests of foreign "isms" will be confounded.

A SACRED TRUST

If you are honored by being selected to hold an office in your union, never forget that it is a sacred trust you hold. The lives, livings and best interests of many workingmen and their families will be more or less dependent on you, according to the degree of responsibility given you. Be true to your trust and conduct yourself in office with honesty and integrity. You will then grow in stature and responsibility and enjoy the admiration and esteem of your fellow-men. This is the highest honor; esteem founded on real service.

In all cases, be true to yourself and honest with everyone and the world will reward you, for it is a tried and true saying that "An Honest Man Is the Noblest Work of God."

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LABOR DAY



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Teachers Union, Local No. 1020

Typographical Workers Union, Local No. 543

Office Employees Intl. Union, Local No. 29

Office Employees Intl. Union, Local No. 94

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LABOR DAY

All over the nation machines are at rest . . . motors and gears are quiet . . . shrill factory whistles are silent. This is Labor Day . . . a day of relaxation, a day of picnics and play and parades. And it also is a day of tribute . . . on which honor is paid to the men and women in the workshops of the nation . . . and fittingly also to those who furnish them with supplies and guidance . . . for our nation's unceasing efforts to make a bigger and better future for this land and its people.



Have a Good Time Labor Day . . .

But . . . DRIVE CAREFULLY

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